

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 21 are pending and stand rejected. Claims 1, 14, 17 and 21 are hereby amended, and the specification and FIGS. 8-9 are amended to identify surface mount pads 37. In the Drawings and Specification, the connector pins may include surface-mount connector pads 37. See, e.g., p. 13, lines 1-3 and Figures 8 and 9 supporting the recitations of claim 7.

Claims 1-2 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Hoffman '487 patent in view of Shult, U.S. Patent No. 3,621,484 and Suppelsa, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,591,364. The claims, as amended, now recite the metallic coupling as discussed in the examiner's official action with support of the parent filing.

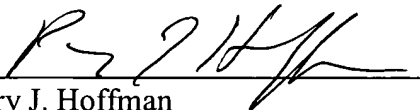
Claims 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimizu, JP 03-174801 in view of Guglielmi, U.S. Patent No. 5,557,530. The Shimizu reference appears neither to disclose the use of a computer program nor the use of a computer program over the internet. Guglielmi is concerned with eliminating tuning elements. The Guglielmi '530 patent also does not use a computer program over the internet, but only discloses a computation unit 22 provided within a filter system itself to automatically synthesize waveguide filters to avoid the use of tuning elements in a particular waveguide filter system. The prior art does not access a design program over a computer network for defining and identifying signal couplers or like filter discrete metallic coupling components and the like for specifying assembly of the electronic device. In addition to neither reference's teaching nor suggesting the use of an internet interface nor any external computer program, the Guglielmi '530 patent fails to disclose or suggest accessing a high-frequency filter design program via the internet for generating characteristic information from helical filter component data.

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In view of the foregoing, it is believed that each of pending claims 1 and 3-21 are patentable over the prior art. Allowance of the pending claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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